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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 10/574,614 | 04/05/2006 | Masami Yoshikawa | 289089US3PCT | 4242 |
| 22850 7590 11/18/2008 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 | | | EXAMINER CHAN, KAWING | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2837 | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | NOTIFICATION DATE 11/18/2008 | DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/574,614 | Applicant(s) YOSHIKAWA, MASAMI | |
| | Examiner Kawing Chan | Art Unit 2837 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04/05/06 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/05/06 and 02/19/08</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 04/05/06 and 02/19/08 are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statements are being considered by examiner.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: "opening/closing". Appropriate correction is required. For examination purpose, the phrase "opening/closing" is interpreted as "opening or closing".

Drawings

4. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "weighting device" and "weight load" in claim 2, "a stop floor detecting device" in claim 4, "a timer" in claim 5, "an elevator operation control room" in claim 6 and "an abnormality detecting sensor"

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in claim 7 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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6. Claims 1 and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mizuno et al. (US 5,290,975).

7. In Re claim 1, with reference to Figures 1 and 5-9, Mizuno discloses an elevator door apparatus (Figure 7) characterized by comprising:

- An elevator door (4) capable of reciprocating between a door closure position for closing an elevator entrance and a door open position for opening the elevator entrance (Col 1 lines 15-20);
- A door drive device (14) for driving the elevator door (4) (Col 1 lines 50-51);
- A door control device (5) for adjusting the door open position based on control information for controlling an operation of an elevator (Figures 8-9; Col 2 lines 30-47),
- Obtaining a door opening/closing pattern (i.e. speed pattern of opening/closing of the elevator door) for the elevator door (4) to be opened and closed between the adjusted door open position and the door closure position (Figure 8; Col 2 lines 5-21), and
- Controlling the door drive device (14) so that the elevator door (4) is reciprocated in accordance with the obtained door opening/closing pattern (i.e. speed pattern of opening/closing of the elevator door) (Figures 8-9; Col 2 lines 5-47).

8. In Re claim 6, with reference to Figures 1-2 and 5, Mizuno teaches the remote information (i.e. predetermined door opening/closing control data) due to remote

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operation from an elevator operation control room (7, 47-50) is input to the door control device (5, 5c) as the control information (Col 6 line 43 to Col 8 line 28).

9. In Re claim 7, with reference to Figures 1-2 and 5, Mizuno teaches the abnormality information is input to the door control device (5, 5c) as the control information (Col 7 lines 1-29 and 43-54; Col 8 lines 6-28). Since the hoist controller (7) is capable of detecting the abnormality of the door controller, the abnormality detecting sensor is inherently disclosed (Col 6 lines 43-58).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mizuno et al. (US 5,290,975) in view of Hattori et al. (US 5,813,498).

12. In Re claim 2, Mizuno has been discussed above, but fails to disclose the control information includes weight information.

However, with reference to Figures 1-2, Hattori teaches weight information from a weighting device (3) for generating a signal in accordance with a size of a weight load in a car is input to the door control device (5) as the control information (Col 2 line 40 to Col 3 line 30; Col 3 line 35 to Col 4 line 7).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified the teachings of Mizuno with the teachings of Hattori, since it is known in the art to utilize the weight of the passengers in the elevator to determine the number of passenger is getting off at a destination floor so as to be able to control the door open position (door width) at the destination floor.

13. In Re claim 3, Hattori teaches an operation switch (door open button) for adjusting the door open position is provided inside of a car; and operation information generated through an operation (pressing the door open button) on the operation switch is input to the door control device as the control information (Col 3 lines 31-35).

14. In Re claim 4, with reference to Figures 1-2, Hattori teaches the stop floor information (destination floor) from a stop floor detecting sensor (2) for detecting a floor at which the car stops is input to the door control device (5) as the control information (Col 2 line 34 to Col 3 line 30; Col 3 line 35 to Col 4 line 7).

15. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mizuno et al. (US 5,290,975) in view of Amend (US 5,696,362).

16. In Re claim 5, Mizuno has been discussed above, but fails to disclose the control information includes time information.

However, Amend teaches a weak beam timer for controlling how long the elevator doors stay open.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified the teachings of Mizuno with the teachings of Amend, since it is known in the art to utilize a weak beam timer for

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controlling how long the elevator doors stay open at a destination floor so as to be to give passengers enough time to get in and out of the elevator.

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hayashi et al., Kim, Hirabayashi et al., Shung et al., Hmelovsky et al., Shemanske II et al., Kamani et al. and Iwasa are further cited to show related teachings in the art.

18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kawing Chan whose telephone number is (571)270-3909. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

19. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Benson can be reached on 571-272-2227. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

20. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kawing Chan
Examiner
Art Unit 2837

/Walter Benson/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2837